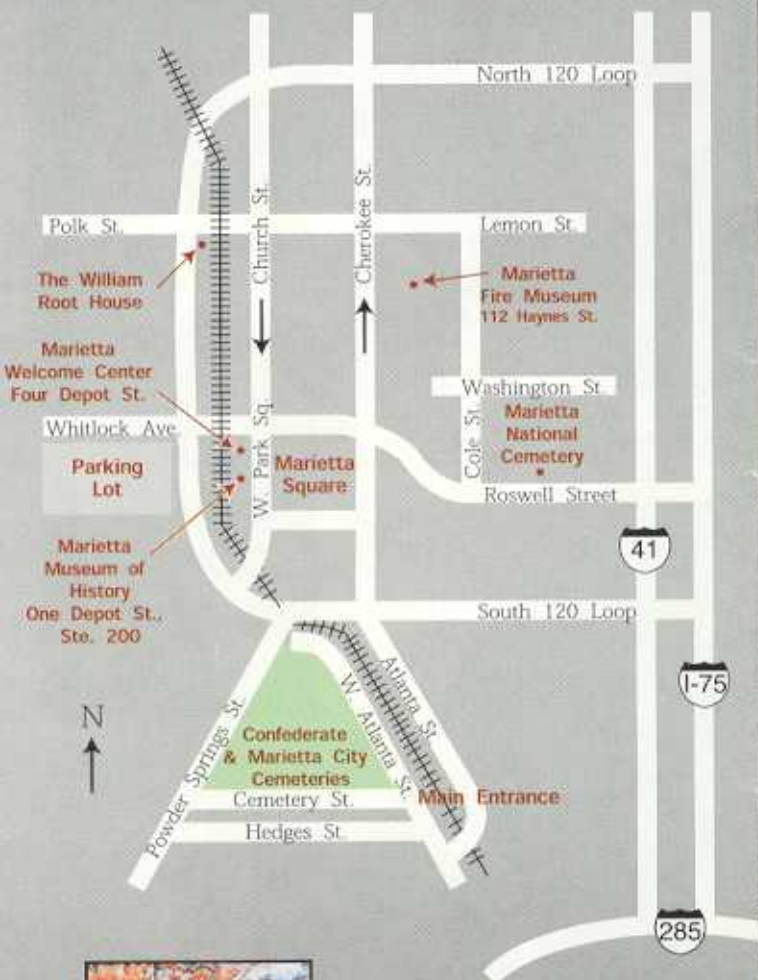
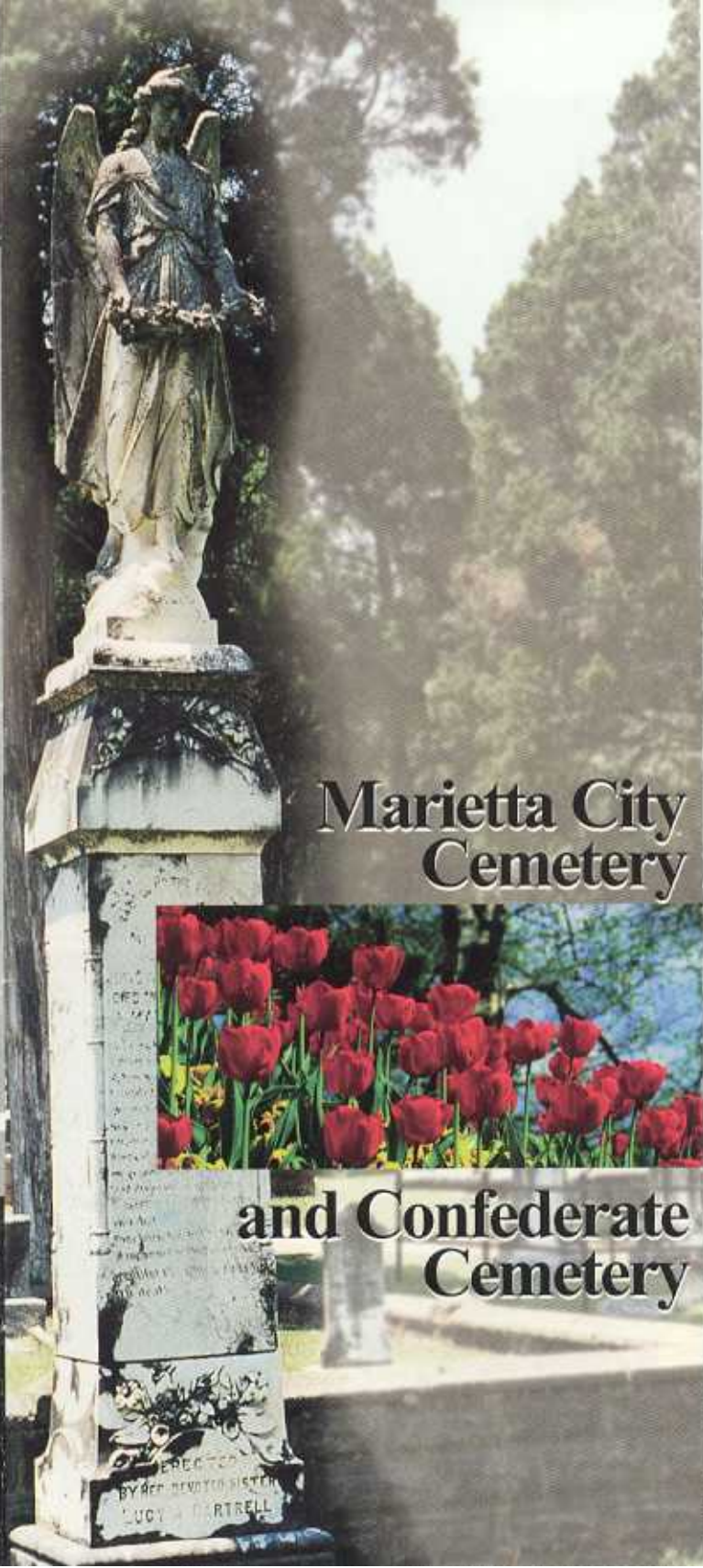


Marietta City Cemetery and Confederate Cemetery



Marietta City Cemetery
381 Powder Springs Street
Marietta, Georgia 30060



Marietta City Cemetery

and Confederate Cemetery



*A*mid the marble and granite markers on this lush, rolling hillside, you'll find reflections of Marietta's proud heritage. Quiet pathways lead you back through the mists of time, to chance encounters with many of the people who shaped the destiny of the vibrant community we know today ... the early settlers ... merchants and planters ... slaves and free men ... rough-hewn workmen and genteel ladies ... scholars ... statesmen ... carefree children filled with the promise of youth ... and many other unique personalities who helped to weave the colorful tapestry of Marietta's past.

Tragedy, Victory and Mystery Live On in the Storied History of

The Marietta City Cemetery

"As you pass by, so once did I."

The Marietta City Cemetery provides the final resting place for a broad cross-section of the community's early residents, most notably without the barriers between those of different races, religions and backgrounds common to Georgia during the 1800s.

Established in the 1830s and restored to its present state in the early 1900s, the Marietta City Cemetery stands today as a monument to the many people who built our community. Several former mayors of Marietta and one former mayor of Smyrna are buried here. Steadman Vincent Sanford, former president of the University of Georgia, whose name the school's football stadium now bears, also rests here. Here, too, is U.S. Senator Alexander

Clay, the only Cobb County native ever elected to the U.S. Senate. ing the awards he received and the public offices he held, Clay's monument also bears an inscription that expresses the enduring strength of his character: *"He retreated with the aspects of a victor and though he succumbed, he seemed to conquer."*

Reflect on the tragedy . . .

Buried here, too, is 13-year-old Mary Phagan.

Mary, the victim of one of the South's most notorious murder cases, conquered the hearts of Georgians. She was murdered in 1913 on Confederate Memorial Day, a statewide holiday honoring Confederate veterans. The man accused of the murder was hanged by vigilantes two years after Mary's death, and although later investigations cast doubt on the guilt of the accused man, the "true" murderer was never found. Mary's tragic death saddened and outraged her hometown — and the entire state — and inspired a melancholy folk song, "The Ballad of Mary Phagan," about the notorious murder and lynching.

On a monument dedicated to Mary, an inscription bears witness to the pain and sorrow the community felt at her death: *"... Sleep, little girl; sleep in your humble grave but ... know that many an aching heart in Georgia beats for you ..."*

Relive the victory . . .

The Marietta City Cemetery is filled with people who overcame tremendous odds to make a positive impact on the lives of the people in their community. Reverend Thomas Milton Allen is one of them.

Born in servitude in 1833, Allen was a former slave who became an early leader in Marietta's African-American community. He became a charter member of Zion Baptist Church, founded in 1866, and later served as its second pastor. Allen went on to organize Cole Street Baptist Church (later known as Pleasant Grove Baptist Church) and Whitlock Avenue Baptist Church. He also founded the first association for African-American churches in 1890.

Also of interest is the grave of Daniel Webster Blair. The longtime superior court judge was one of the first judges in Georgia to take a strong stand against the Ku Klux Klan during the organization's resurgence in the early 1920s. In a scathing denunciation from the bench, he called for the prompt and strict prosecution of everyone who wore hoods to conceal their identity.

Please see "Marietta City Cemetery" inside.



Stephens Clay, the only Cobb County native ever elected to the U.S. Senate.

Clay's many achievements are summarized on a 20-foot-high granite obelisk. In addition to not-



“Marietta City Cemetery *from front*



A Proud Heritage Just beyond this modest stone wall in the Marietta City Cemetery lies the final resting place of some of Marietta's most notable early residents.

Beneath the guardian angel that watches over the cemetery, you will discover the legend of the “Lady in Black.” Lucy Gartrell, a musician and native of Cobb County, erected a 15-foot-tall white marble memorial as a tribute to her sister, Mary Annie Gartrell. Lucy, who visited her sister’s grave at least twice a week for 46 years, always wore black mourning clothes on her visits and became known as the “Lady in Black.” Her tale of devotion, detailed on a historic marker, continues to interest all who visit the quiet family plot on the cemetery’s east side.

Uncover the mystery . .

The cemetery is known as a place of mystery. In 1895, a city sexton reported seeing ghosts, and on one occasion, Sexton Sanford Gorham said he noticed a man in black watching him as he worked. As he walked toward the man, however, the man vanished — in an open area where there was no place to hide. Years later, Gorham saw a woman dressed in black standing beside a fresh grave on a rainy day. But when he approached the woman, he discovered that she had disappeared, leaving behind no evidence that she had ever walked on the wet earth.

Understand the history . . .

Throughout the cedar-scented grounds of the Marietta City Cemetery are reminders of each era of Marietta’s history. In the early 1830s, the Cherokee Indians still occupied portions of Cobb County when the first known marked grave was dug on the hill-top. This first grave was the final resting place for William Capers G. Harris, the 8-year-old son of wealthy planter and real estate investor William Harris and his wife Mary.

Young William’s headstone bears a poignant message: “*As you pass by, so once did I.*”

The hill on which William Capers G. Harris was buried soon became known as a place that helped foster a sense of community among both new and old residents. Many local historians believe that some of Marietta’s earliest Methodist and Baptist congregations worshipped in a log cabin on the hill. One of the four oldest marked graves belongs to a charter member of the Marietta Presbyterian Church.

This spirit of community extended to the

city’s nonwhite residents, as well. The Old Slave Lot occupies one of the largest single plots in the cemetery. Its name reflects the realities of a different era, and indeed its presence is a rarity — at the time, no other major cemetery in Georgia had a lot devoted to the burial of slaves or free people of African descent. Interestingly, knowledge of its existence would have been forever lost in the confusion following the Civil War, if not for the efforts of a crippled Confederate veteran. Robert E. Lawhorn, City Clerk for the City of Marietta, managed to preserve the information as part of his attempt to assemble a complete cemetery record.

Other segments of Marietta and Southern society are equally well-represented. These include gravesites of families from the plantations of the Georgia and Carolina Low-country, such as that of Francis Harris McLeod, who erected his family’s brick mausoleum in 1854 in the style common to coastal cemeteries.

After years of neglect during the early part of the 20th century, the City of Marietta began funding repair and maintenance of the cemetery in the late 1980s, thanks largely to the leadership of State Representative Joe Mack Wilson (who later became mayor of Marietta). Attempts to preserve this valuable piece of the city’s heritage received another much-needed boost in 1996, when retired journalist and Marietta resident George Keeler bequeathed a substantial monetary gift to the preservation efforts. Thanks to these and other concerned citizens, the Marietta City Cemetery continues to provide a valuable opportunity for residents and visitors to learn more about the city’s storied history.

Based on research provided by Curt Ratledge, conducted under contractual agreement with the City of Marietta.

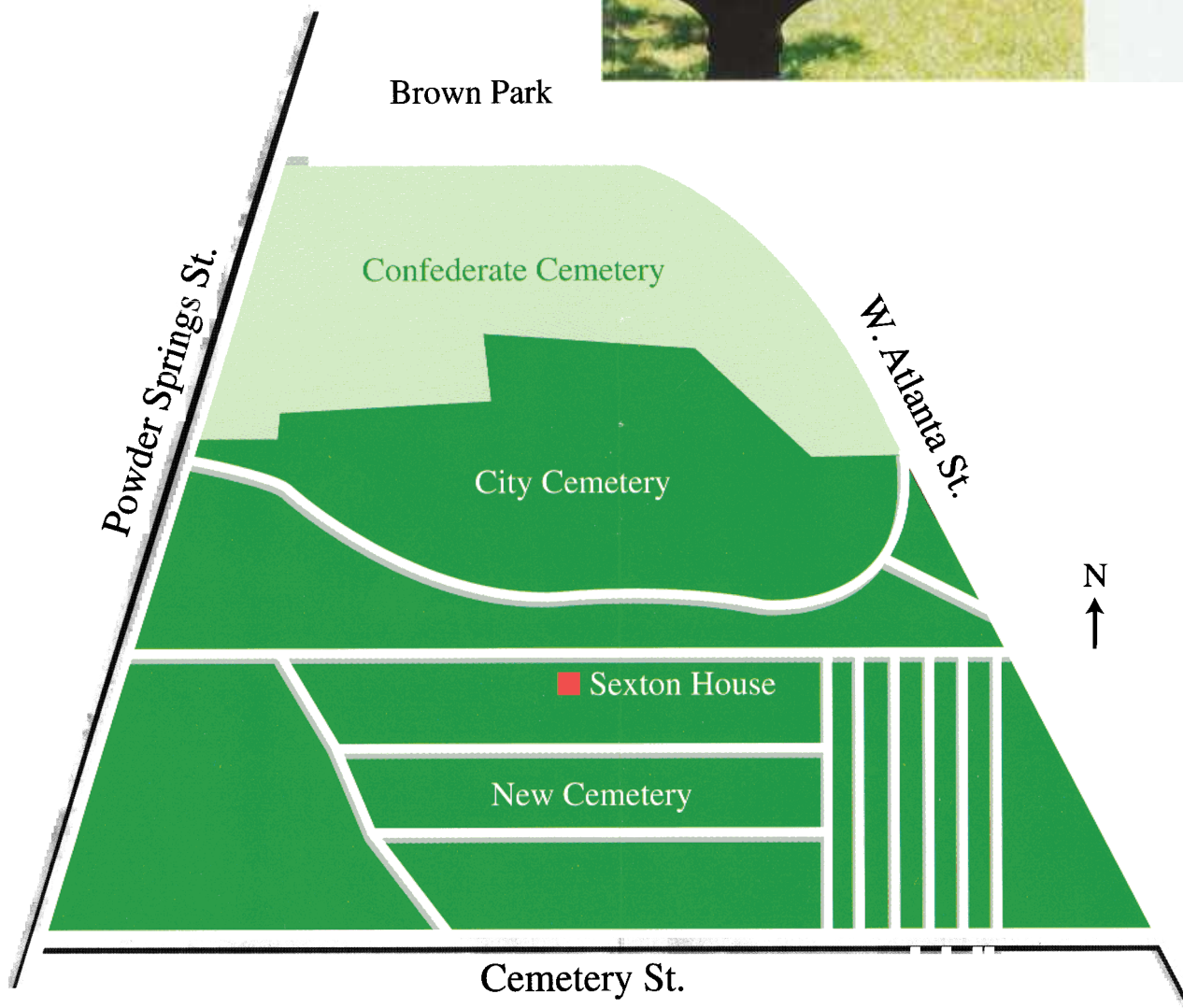


Political Leaders Alexander Stephens Clay, the only Cobb County native to serve in the U.S. Senate, 11 former Marietta mayors, and one former Smyrna mayor are interred in the Marietta City Cemetery.



Racial Tolerance

As evidenced by the "Old Slave Lot," segregation was not practiced in the Marietta City Cemetery, making it unique among Southern burial grounds.



Welcome to Marietta's Garden of Heroes:

"Here Lie the Men in Gray"

*T*he 1861-1865 conflict between North and South forced many men to leave their homes to defend Southern soil. Although many eventually returned to their loved ones, others came to rest here in the Marietta Confederate Cemetery.



More than 3,000 soldiers, from every Confederate state and Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri, now lie in the Marietta Confederate Cemetery. The cemetery was established in September 1863, when Mrs. Jane Porter Glover donated the quiet corner of her Bushy Park Plantation to accommodate the burial of approximately 20 Confederate soldiers who perished in a train wreck just north of Marietta. A few new graves were added to the cemetery during the next several months, but major expansions did not occur until the war reached nearby Kennesaw Mountain on July 27, 1864.

The greatest expansion of the cemetery took place when the guns at last fell silent. In 1866, the Georgia Legislature appropriated \$3,500 to collect the remains of Confederate soldiers who fell elsewhere in

Georgia and return them to Marietta for reburial. The recovery effort was spearheaded by Catherine Winn of the Ladies' Aid Society and Mary Green of the Georgia Memorial Association, who organized groups of women to search for soldiers who were killed on the battlefields at Ringgold, Chickamauga, Kennesaw Mountain, Kolb Farm, and the points north of the Chattahoochee River. These dedicated women helped bring the remains of hundreds of Confederate soldiers to rest with their comrades in Marietta. Although the National Cemetery had been established for soldiers from both sides of the war, Confederate veterans preferred to be buried in the Marietta Confederate Cemetery with their fellow soldiers.

One private plot belongs to the family of Thomas L. Bussey, who worked for the Western & Atlantic Railroad as a conductor. Bussey was a cadet of the Georgia Military Institute in his younger days, and enlisted in the Confederate service from the Institute. After the war, he worked for the Western & Atlantic Railroad, which once transported many of the soldiers' remains to the Marietta Confederate Cemetery.

As the years passed and the original wooden markers

weathered away, the names of soldiers killed in action and buried here were lost.

In 1902, caretakers replaced the deteriorated original wooden markers with plain marble markers of the type you see today. In 1907, Mrs. Glover deeded the cemetery to the

Ladies' Memorial Association. The Association then turned the property over to the state in 1908, the same year the Kennesaw Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy dedicated the tall marble monument in the center of the cemetery to "Our Confederate Dead." After the Spanish-American War, this



cemetery became the first place in the South where the Confederate flag was allowed to fly. The hillside also became the focal point of the city's Confederate Memorial Day observance in April.

Please see "Garden of Heroes" inside.



“Garden of Heroes” from front



“To Our Confederate Dead” The Kennesaw Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy erected this marble monument shortly after turning ownership of the property over to the state.

In 1910, an Act of Congress returned a long-held trophy of war, where it now stands guard over the cemetery. The “Little Cannon” was originally presented to the Georgia Military Institute by the State of Georgia. Union forces captured the 6-pound field piece near Savannah in 1864, but the “Little Cannon” was retrieved in an arsenal at Watervliet, New York. The Latin inscription on the barrel, “*Victrix fortunae Sapientia*,” translates to mean: “Wisdom, the Victor Over Fortune.”

Other monuments were also added to the hillside. In 1910, 15 identical marble markers were placed among the headstones — one monument for each Confederate state, a single marker for Maryland and Missouri, and a marker for the Soldiers’ Home Section. A white marble arch was erected in 1911 near the northeast corner of the cemetery, facing Marietta Square. The arch pays homage to the fallen and bears the title “Confederate Cemetery.”

Burials continued in the cemetery well into the 20th century, as age gradually claimed the remaining survivors of the war. Unlike their predecessors, most of these later arrivals have their

names inscribed on their markers. Many were residents of the Confederate Soldiers’ Home in Atlanta. Among these graves, you will find W.A. Ellis, one of the Ellis twins, who were the oldest living twins in Georgia when both men died in 1926. Close by lies Lorenzo Dow Grace, who was the oldest Confederate veteran when he died in 1928 at age 114. Another Georgia Military Institute cadet, Russell Taylor, is also buried here, as is John A. Blount of the Georgia Confederate Marines, an elite unit that was extremely few in number.

Interestingly, the last resident of the Confederate Soldiers Home who was buried here is a man of African-American descent. Born a slave, William H. “Bill” Yopp followed his then-master, Captain Thomas M. Yopp, to war with the 14th Georgia Infantry Regiment. Bill’s wartime devotion to Captain Yopp continued in peacetime as well, leading eventually to the Soldiers’ Home, where both men lived out their days. Bill Yopp died on June 3, 1936.

By then, the Confederate Cemetery in Marietta had become the largest Confederate cemetery south of Richmond, Virginia.

As you stroll the grounds of this peaceful hillside and contemplate the sacrifices made by those who rest here, you will begin to understand why General Clement A. Evans referred to this



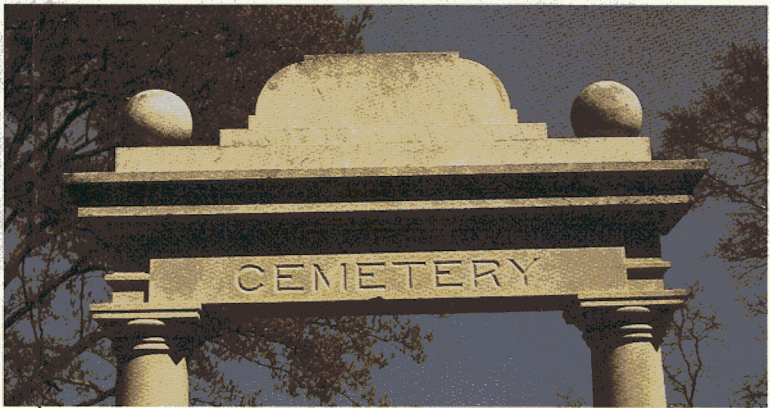
The “Little Cannon” Captured by Union forces near Savannah in 1864, the 6-pound field piece was returned to Georgia by an Act of Congress in 1910.

hallowed ground as a “garden of heroes” when he helped dedicate the Confederate Monument. For here lie many gallant “Sons of the South,” who sacrificed their lives, youth, and innocence to defend their homes and families.

Information by Larry Blair and Betty Hunter



A Symbol of Pride The Confederate seal honors the valor of the fallen heroes from each Confederate state.



An Arch of Tribute This white marble arch pays homage to the soldiers buried in the Marietta Confederate Cemetery.

